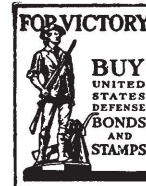


# The Bardian



To Win  
The War  
In '44—

No. 1 New Series

BARD COLLEGE, ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.

Friday, January 14, 1944

## ASTP Men to Get Specific Combat Jobs

By PFC. STANLEY I. WALD

The prospect that every ASTP graduate will be assigned to a specific job in a combat unit rather than being haphazardly shipped out, hit-or-miss fashion, appears bright.

Copies of ASTP curricula were sent recently to unit commanders, who were asked to submit recommendations as to the military occupational specialities for which graduates of each type of course may be qualified in a T.O. This serves the two-fold purpose: It will enable ASTP classifying personnel to make their assignments accordingly; and at the same time unit commanders will know what to do with their ASTP men when they arrive.

The over-all distribution of graduates is based on a quota system. That is to say that most of the branches of the service are allotted a definite proportion of graduates. For the Area-Language group this is now fixed, subject to change, however, at any time. Thus the Army Ground Forces get 58 percent; Military Intelligence ("highly dangerous, interesting and secretive work"), 19 percent; Signal Corps, 11 percent; Military Police, 11 percent; Air Corps, 2 percent.

Not quite as definite is the future disposition of the engineers. A great many will go to combat units in the Army Ground Forces, and to the Air Force. Some will go on to the Advanced Engineering courses. But the recent 15 percent reduction in ASTP, as recently announced by the Secretary of War, is very likely to be felt at this point.

## Bardian Facts

Here it is—the first issue of the new *Bardian*.

The entire contents of the paper are written, drawn, or otherwise prepared for publication by members of the Bard College community.

Most of the articles are by students. Most of the students are wearing the Army's OD.

Big credit for starting the new *Bardian* rolling goes to S/Sgt. Herbert C. Clarke, who conceived it, proposed it, worked up support for it, and devoted a good many after-class hours to make it a reality.

First step in the new *Bardian's* history was a meeting of some 15 students three weeks ago, called together by S/Sgt. Clarke to discuss the possibilities. Enthusiasm was high; so size, shape and general policy were thereupon tentatively formulated, an editor chosen, and first assignments handed out.

Then followed a conference of civilian and soldier editors of the old and the soon-to-be *Bardian* with Dean Charles Gray and Mr. Cyril Harris, where the policy that the *Bardian* should represent the entire community, working as one team, was confirmed and the close cooperation of all—administration, faculty, civilian students and ASTP trainees—was promised. The resources financial and otherwise, of the earlier *Bardian* were put at the disposal of the new Editorial Board.

From then on, production work went into high gear. A staff was organized, copy began to roll in. And—here's your paper.

## Officer Material

Corporal Leek Tells Hopeful Trainees Easy Way to Promised Land of OCS in Startling Expose

By CPL. JAMES F. LEEK

There are several ways of becoming an officer. I shall say a word, perhaps two words, about each method, and pray that the reader keeps always in mind the fact that I list them in order of probability. You can become an officer thus:

**O.C.S.**—Everyone has an equal chance to be eliminated, go nuts, or maybe even get a commission.

**Promotion in the field**—Everyone has an equal chance here also. If your outfit remains in the front lines long enough there's no reason why you too can't make it—process of elimination and all that.

**Being born an officer**—Here again the odds appear even. If anyone can bring into this world a pair of bars, properly blitzed and neatly welded on his shoulders, why can't you?

**ASTP Graduate**—It must be confessed that little information is available here. It stands to reason, however, that your chances should be at least 50% as good as those of anyone being born with bars.

We can ignore, for the time being, promotion in the field for obvious reasons. We can ignore, too, the born officer, at least until we hear of one. We ignore the ASTP grad—who doesn't?—for a combination of the above-named reasons. Having thus eliminated all the more popular possibilities, we find ourselves with something we can get our teeth into—or vice versa—O.C.S.

Getting into O.C.S. is no mean trick in itself these days. We can all remember how in the late summer of 1942 O.C.'s were just about drafted into school, but it's different now, chum. It began to be different along about last February when various Service Commands got the idea of sending a G.I. to O.C.S. Prep School. It tended to make the cheese more binding, but it was a very natural decision.

Some outfits loaded up everyone with an AGCT of 110 or better and who gave evidence of having the usual number of eyes, ears, arms and legs, and shipped them off to various O.C.S.'s. Lots of these guys came back, and that was bad. It was bad for the G.I.'s morale; it was expensive; and most important, it was indicative of lack of judgment on the part of the officers who recommended the guys.

You can't blame the G.I. if he didn't like it—you can't blame him if he didn't have a knowledge of certain fundamentals as a basis for learning—and you certainly can't blame him if he lacked that all-important little point of ability and character called leadership. Nope—you can't blame the G.I. for not having those things. If you've got 'em . . . well and good. If you ain't got 'em . . . the guy who passed the ammunition will see you whenever possible. Whether or not a guy had these qualifications should have been determined before he went to

(Continued on Page 4)

## Army Lands, Civvies Friendly As Bard Makes War Changes

By STANLEY FALK

When some 300 of the government's favorite inductees first arrived on the campus, and the previously non-present G.I. haircut was declared a la mode, the problem of how ASTP would fit in with the Bard program was raised. Even more so was another question: what effect would Uncle Sam's arrival have on the individual student?

After six months' acquaintance with the khaki-clad savants this question is ready to be answered. The student entering in August, or since then, can obviously not make a comparison with previous times. His reaction is simply an acceptance of fact, since Bard without ASTP is unknown to him.

However, those members of the student body whose stay at the college dates from before this past summer have seen many changes take place.

The pre-Army Bardian has seen the school change from what had been but a small college to a large institution with a faculty more than doubled and a student body

more than quadrupled. The eye which once saw lines of parked cars now looks upon squads of drilling men; which once rested on comfortable social rooms now gazes at uninviting classrooms.

The Bardian has found his choice of subjects limited by his overworked professors; the libraries and gymnasium are no longer entire his; the Dining Commons has been reduced to an eat-as-you-go basis; the suites and rooms of most of the dormitories have been closed to him, and at dances his hopes of success with the fair sex usually have been frustrated by G.I. Joe.

Yet the Bardian does not regret ASTP. Despite the changes which it has wrought, he realizes that it is a necessity.

On the whole he has not been tangibly hindered. He is still able to pursue his studies with almost as great a degree of freedom as in pre-ASTP days. So he shrugs his shoulders and perhaps mumbles "C'est la guerre."

He realizes that ASTP will go half way to meet him if he will do his share. And he acts accordingly.

## New Bard GI Show Dazzles Red Hook Public Next Month

By PFC. WILLMER G. CIMPRICH

You have been hearing about it. Yes, it's the 5-star ASTP Variety Show, the hottest thing this side of Broadway, which will be presented to the public at the Red Hook High School auditorium in February.

Owing to the success of the German production presented December 10, Major Brown suggested that a bigger and better show be produced, in English, and presented before the general public.

The show will be presented as a review, or variety, with many different acts and skits. It will be an all-soldier presentation, written, directed and acted by the trainees of Bard College. Cpl. Louis Krch and Pfc. Philip Fleishman are in charge of staging and production. Cpl. Krch has long been associated with radio and musical productions, Pfc. Fleishman, assisted by Cpl. Ben Yaffee, is lending his experience toward the production end.

**Use Pin-Method**  
The old pin-method was used to find out, in strict G.I. fashion, exactly which men could be called upon. However, personal reconnaissance uncovered a great deal of hidden talent which had never found its way onto the Form 20s.

The men laying the ground-work for the show are: Sgt. Paul Lawson, Pfc. Donald Ritter, Pfc. Stanley Wald, Pfc. Newton Allen, Pfc. Martin George, Cpl. Montgomery Popovich, Pfc. Lawrence Weisberg, Pfc. Victor Grigas, Pfc. Fred Tibbets, Pfc. Harold Jordan, T/4 Leo Tibensky, Pvt. Charles Harrington, and T/5 Freeman Koberstein. Others will be called upon for help.

There will be quite a few more men needed for various tasks, and anyone interested in acquiring experience in stagecraft, chorus work, publicity, etc., is invited to offer his services. Also, if you know of any good strip-teasers, Messrs. Fleishman and Krch will be happy to grant personal interviews.

One of the purposes of the show is to present the fact that our aptitude is not limited merely to soldiering and studying, but that manifest talent exists in other fields and needs only to be removed from a latent state of being.

A small admittance fee will be charged, the proceeds going to a combined engineer and language student unit fund.

**Good Scripts Offered**  
To date, some exceptionally good script has been turned in, and Cpl. Krch, drawing on an unlimited supply of musicians here at Bard, is whipping up an orchestra that is sure to please.

The Red Hook High School auditorium is the address. The exact date hasn't been decided, but it will be during the third week of February. Bardites will thus have the privilege of being first-nighters at a really colossal extravaganza. On the strength of the last enterprise attempted here, a capacity crowd is expected. Watch the bulletin board for further announcements and don't forget to report any talent to either Cpl. Krch or Pfc. Fleishman.

Remember, the show is open to the public, so invite all your friends. See you all at the big show!

**Additional copies of this first issue of the new "Bardian" may be obtained at the College Store. Price, 5 cents.**

## Concert at Bard

Bard civilian and army student talent will again be pooled to offer the season's fifth concert at Bard Hall, Sunday, January 16, at 4 P.M.

The program will feature early eighteenth century music for strings. Solo and ensemble works by Corelli, Handel, and Bach will be played by Albert Stwertka, David Margolin, Arnold Davis, and Corporal Louis Krch, violinists, and Harold Lubell, cellist. The civilian students are from the class of Guido Brand. Dr. Paul Schwartz, head of the music department, will play the piano accompaniments.

## The Bardian

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## College Credits

Army trainees who expect to continue their college work after the war will be cheered by the progress made in securing college credits for work done in ASTP.

The go-ahead signal was given last month by the AST Division's Advisory Committee of distinguished educators. In a letter to college heads it recommended "that all students of ASTP, while in residence, be registered in the institution as regular students, and be given academic credit in accordance with the rules and standards adopted by the institution."

Bard had previously decided to regard its ASTP trainees as regularly-enrolled students of the college; all trainees are already listed as such in the Columbia University directory. It is also now official that the trainees will get college credit for the work completed at Bard.

Determination of the exact number of credits to be awarded awaits word from the New York State Board of Regents, which is expected to take formal action soon on standardizing credit allowances for ASTP studies.

Action by the Board of Regents will guarantee acceptance not only by Columbia University but by all colleges in the State of credits earned in ASTP. Other accrediting agencies will undoubtedly follow their lead.

## Will Soldiers Vote in '44?

Certain members of the United States Senate ought to be changing their minds about soldiers'-vote legislation any day now.

Their initial mistake was made, you remember, a few weeks ago, when the Senators rejected the Lucas-Green bill, which would have set up a Federal ballot commission to collect the votes of servicemen for the coming Presidential election.

They substituted, instead, a bill which merely requested the individual states to make provisions for soldiers' voting.

It was immediately apparent that a purely state-operated system just wouldn't work. Many of the states, in the name of whose rights the Lucas-Green measure had been turned down, were among the first to point out that the measure passed by the Senate would have the sole effect of depriving the men and women in the armed forces of an opportunity to cast their ballots, in what probably be the most important election in all of American history—the election which will decide the future role of America in this war and the peace to follow.

Some of the states have no provisions at all for absentee voting. Others have complicated rules requiring as many as five exchanges of mail between the home secretary of state and the would-be voter, all of which must be completed within 30 days—obviously an impossibility for the men in distant posts.

Almost every state would have to change its voting laws. A few will take action—Georgia has even decided to waive its poll-tax requirement in the case of servicemen — but most state legislatures will not meet in time for the necessary changes to be enacted.

So, it's Federal handling of soldiers' ballots, or no voting at all for most of the 10 or 11 million GI's.

These arguments are expected to have considerable effect on the Senators. They will

## Hudson Timewaves

By Pfc. Larry Weisberg

In all America, no region is more jam-packed with thrilling American history, legend and folklore than the Hudson Valley. Artists, writers and historians have for two centuries sought to record the magnificence of this neighborhood. How much do you know about the story of the area in which your college is located? Here are some of the more absorbing examples of curious Hudsonia.

The first European to see the Hudson was Giovanni da Verrazano in 1524.

**The Hudson River valley is the birthplace of three U. S. presidents—Martin Van Buren, Theodore Roosevelt and FDR—also seven vice-presidents and six justices of the U. S. Supreme Court.**

LaFayette and Martin Van Buren were entertained at the Delafield estate in Barrytown.

Indian tribes of the Iroquois Confederation battled ferociously for supremacy in the neighborhood of Ward Manor—the Mohawks coming out on top.

**The British fleet burned local storehouses filled with grain stored for the Continental Army in Barrytown in 1777.**

The site of the Beekman Arms hotel in Rhinebeck was used as a parade and training ground during the Revolution. Among those stationed there was George Washington.

Hudson Valley wines are as excellent and well-known as any produced along the Moselle or Rhine.

**Red Hook was burned by the British during the Revolution.**

Neighborhood taverns were established because of the necessity of changing horses every 10 miles by the stagecoaches along the Albany Post Road. In 1800 there were nine taverns in Rhinebeck alone.

## The Feast

By the Prophet

And it came to pass in the Land of Bard  
 That there was a great sadness among the populace;  
 For the people were forbidden by the Lord to journey  
 to the Promised Land  
 To make the feast of the Last Night of the 43rd year  
 of the 20th century.

*But it came to pass that, in the Banquet Halls of Bard,  
 (Even as it was in Judea at the ancient feast of  
 Passover)*

*Many of the weaker souls soon passed under  
 The banquet tables laden with fowls of the Land.  
 Yea, Verily, I say unto you that those souls  
 Which did not pass under did soon pass out  
 For the wine was strong and the preface wrong  
 That there would be no evil spirits among the righteous.*

*And so the wickedness of the many  
 Destroyed as dust the righteousness of the few,  
 And the Halls of Hoffman shook  
 Under the disturbances wrought by the Bridge  
 Builders.*

*Yea, Verily, even did the Speakers of Many Tongues  
 Raise their voices in verses strange, oft profane,  
 For the unholy ghost and Marguerite had rendered  
 Their mouths full of evil and their bellies full of  
 Ballantine's.*

*Even did the Acting Priests of the sacred Brassards  
 Forget their holy station condoning this inflation.  
 The High Priest Hanacek, begat of the Father of  
 Hanacek,  
 Knew it vain to attempt to reign over the happy  
 sinners of Bard.*

*But, verily, as the Prophet Greenfield had prophesied  
 The hour of judgment did surely approach;  
 For the Lord did descend from his Orderly Chamber  
 And the countenance of the Lord was wrath.  
 It smote the evil works of the Bridge Builders  
 And made to fall down the Greeks and Manhattanites;  
 It struck fear into the heart of Kavanagh of Brooklyn  
 Who did plead: "Have mercy upon me, O Lord,  
 for I am in trouble.*

*Mine head is consumed with grief,  
 Yea, my soul and belly also."  
 The Lord saw his repentance and on him took mercy.  
 Then the Lord saith, "Let there be darkness!"  
 And there was Darkness.*

*Verily, Verily, I say unto you my prophecy:  
 The Builders of Bridges and Speakers of Tongues  
 Shall be scattered to the ends of the earth  
 Ere they drink on the last night of the 44th year of  
 the 20th century.*

undoubtedly also be influenced by the weight of public opinion which has made itself felt in overwhelming volume since the Senatorial action.

Not the least important expression of opinion on the question came from the soldiers overseas. "Stars and Stripes," the GI journal in the European Theater of Operations, has reflected the lively interest of the men in Italy and North Africa in the coming election.

The boys in the service have made it plain that it is not a special privilege, but a basic American right that they seek to exercise. It's up to the Senators to see that they get it.

## Dean Surveys Effect of ASTP on College Program

By Dean Charles H. Gray

In this first issue of the BARDIAN under the editorship and management of a joint civilian and A.S.T.P. board, a belated welcome to the new students of the College should be published. The trainees assigned here are not an army of occupation —yet. They are new students of Bard College. The joint publication of this paper suggests that at last the two student groups have recognized their common interests and now form a single community.

What does the A.S.T.P. mean to the College? It means that this small men's college can help to train a portion of the huge American Army—and thus keep alive through the War. We, like most other colleges had to find this job or suspend operations until students were once more free to go where they wanted to go. But since the act of salvation has been accomplished we can emphasize the positive aspect, the specialized training we are giving to soldiers in preparation for the final stages of the War.

The training is not the same thing as the education formerly offered at Bard. Classes have increased in size. Lecturing has returned as a teaching method. Examinations and grades have taken on an importance we have not given them in our program. Try as we do to get to know the trainees individually, as we have known our students before, the numbers defeat the effort. Furthermore, such individual consideration is of less use than before, because the requirements of the curriculum cannot

be adjusted to fit individual needs. The curriculum is packed and the pace is accelerated. As usual, however, it is mainly up to the student what he can gain and make use of. The program demands of the faculty some drastic modifications of their methods. The faculty for the Basic Engineering phase must revert to standard course outlines and cover the ground set for them by the War Department. The faculty for the Foreign Language and Area curriculum, on the contrary, are set the problems of reorganizing their materials to reach a new objective. Language teaching has taken on a new reality for Americans. The effect on language teaching in the future may be far-reaching. In the Area Study the correlation of all the materials of the Social Sciences, including geography more prominently than before, will also doubtless assist the growing tendency to break down departmental barriers. Historians, geographers, sociologists, and economists are working together to create a course of study that will give immediately practical knowledge to men who will enter foreign countries.

Above all, the students themselves, in both curricula, have before them more immediate objectives than liberal arts college students usually have had. The motivation for study should and does lead to the seriousness of purpose necessary for genuine learning. The effect of that upon future student attitudes will be of enormous importance in education.

## In Tune

By T/5 Freeman G. Koberstein

Swinging the classics has inspired hepcats to emotional frenzy and long-haired musicians to furious indignation. To another stratum of music lovers it has brought consciousness that occasionally Mozart, Brahms, Beethoven, and others wrote tunes that can be remembered and whistled. The whole practice has worked two ways: it has proved that many elements of classical music can have appeal for the masses, and it has shown the poverty of invention on the part of Tin-pan Alley composers.

There should be no more sacrilege in setting the Grieg Concerto to swing than in caricaturing Botticelli's *Birth of Venus* or parodying Hamlet's soliloquy. It depends on the spirit, serious or humorous, in which the art work is approached. In an *Eighteenth Century Drawing Room*, presented in appropriate surroundings, can be quite as enjoyable as the dainty Mozart sonata from which it came. A Verdi aria in a good swingtime arrangement frequently surpasses the serious treatment it would be given at the Met.

Some alleged classics, outstanding for their sentimentality and presumptuousness, are so tainted with superficiality and age that we can't listen to them seriously without the tongue in the cheek. In such cases, a swing adaptation is a positive improvement. For example, Connie Boswell's interpretation of the *Martha* aria ought to remain ageless. It all depends on whether you listen to these tunes in the environ-

ment of high spirits and restless feet of the night club, or that of serious introspection and esthetic purity of the concert hall. One does not preclude the other. Many conscientious long-haired musicians listen with equal enthusiasm to the Sunday Philharmonic broadcasts and the "Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street" programs.

There is one grave danger though, in this appropriating of the classics to swing. That is in over-repetition. And all our dance bands are doing just that. In response to the fickle demands of the public, they play a good tune not just now and then, but all the time.

The serious composers of long, sensuous melodies are the special victims of this practice. Tchaikowsky, for instance, wrote some corking good tunes which we don't want to hear too often, even in the concert hall. But when they are blared at us through radio, phonograph, and juke box 24 hours a day, they over-satiate ad nauseum. Tchaikowsky, as well as some of the other hyper-romantic composers, by being a little too obviously lovable in his music, has been mistaken for a musical prostitute, as it were. As a result, his music suffers, and so does a large portion of its admirers.

Let the boys swing everything from Palestrina to Prokofieff, if they like. But let's have a little more variety and spacing in the performances of these arrangements.

## Bard Authors

Scanning the shelves of our own college library we find quite a few books written by members of Bard's faculty. As varied as the fields of study of their authors are the volumes they have written.

Interesting to language students will be three of the many books authored by the French department's Dr. Ravage. First there is the autobiographical "American in the Making" and then two others relating to 19th century European history — "Five Men of Frankfurt" and "Empress Innocence."

Two more recent publications are Dr. Eric Fischer's "The Passing of the European Age" and Dr. Adolf

Sturmthal's "The Tragedy of European Labor." Both were well received as expert discussions of current problems.

Turning to the American scene we find Dr. Carlton Qualey's "Norwegian Settlements in the U. S." in addition to several historical novels by Dr. Cyril Harris of Bard's English department.

Two other Bard teachers have been prominent as editors of standard reference works, Dr. Lyford Edwards as contributing editor to the "Dictionary of Sociology" and Dr. George Genzmer for work on the "Dictionary of American Biography."

C.W.T.

# Concentration Camp Stops Career Of German Exile Now at Bard

Hugh Block Describes Experiences As Nazis Take Power, Invade France

By T/5 Freeman G. Koberstein

German informant Hugh Block came to America after his European career as soldier, art student, sculptor, tourist guide in Helgoland, movie director and actor, journalist, and anti-Nazi was climaxed by imprisonment in concentration camps under Vichy French and Gestapo guards.

At the age of 16 Block left his studies at a Berlin *Gymnasium* to join the army and fight in World War I. He saw action on both eastern and western fronts, receiving machine gun wounds in 1917 on the Russian front, and seeing the whole retreat in the west in 1918.

After the Armistice he returned to Berlin, which he describes as in a state of chaos, a mixture of celebration and revolution. He attended the University of Berlin, and later Heidelberg, studying the history of art and philosophy. "The Heidelberg of those years was hardly that of 'The Student prince,'" he says.

Since his father was a painter, Block's heritage provided him an interest and aptitude in art. After studying at Berlin and Weimar academies he worked as an independent sculptor. Simultaneously he did

This is the first in a series of articles on the experiences in Europe of Bard College instructors.

writing, directing and acting in the movies.

1928 found Block in Helgoland, doing a bang-up business in guiding sightseers around the island in a sailboat. A profitable sideline was smuggling whiskey, gin, and American and English cigarettes from duty-free Helgoland to Bremerhaven on the mainland.

Later, back in Berlin, Block engaged in photography. During this time he conceived of the idea of a "novel without words"—photographs arranged in story sequence. He sold it to a newspaper, and it made quite a hit.

This success led to more story offers, and Block's journalistic career was well under way by the time the Nazis began their power-drive for leadership of post-war Germany.

Block says he took one look at the Nazi program of 1931 and read in it: (1) the rebuilding of military power and nationalism; (2) a program of fake socialism; (3) anti-semitism. So he moved to Paris, where he worked on illustrated newspapers and founded a syndicate of free-lance journalists.

### Tries To Enlist

At the outbreak of World War II, Block tried unsuccessfully to enlist in the French army. The confusion of the country, as Block describes it, was pitiful. Aliens were being rounded up and put in concentration camps. Paradoxically, anyone strongly anti-Nazi and suspected of "broad liberalism," as was Block, was extremely unpopular with the French government at that time. He was taken first, in 1939, to Camp de Chambaran, in the mountains of the Rhone district.

This camp, as all French concentration camps before the downfall of the country, was really a military camp, run by military authorities. Among the inmates were all the retired members of the Foreign Legion who could be rounded up. Many were informers and unsavory characters. At first Block was in a crew of lumberjacks chopping trees in the mountains.

Life was not too good, but nothing compared to what it became in the

spring of 1940, when the southward migrations started and all means of transportation and communication broke down. Block was released, and spent a brief interval in Grenoble teaching German, in response to the anxiety of many French to learn German.

With the capitulation of France and the change to the Petain administration, the concentration camps came under the supervision of the Vichy police and the Gestapo. Block was retaken prisoner and sent to the infamous Camp de Gurs in the Pyrenees.

15,000 prisoners were packed into ciaptrap buildings in a swampy hollow. These buildings had been put up at the time of the collapse of the Spanish loyalists for fugitives from across the mountains. The dormitories were just wide enough to permit men to sleep crosswise on each side of a narrow runway through the center. Men lay elbow to elbow in straw on the dirt floor.

### Describes Condition

Food consisted of a kind of soup and bread, once a day. Occasionally a group would pool their money, bribe the guards, and get a little extra food. They made the soup a little thicker sometimes by stirring in "half-officially" purchased corn-meal mush.

There were no wash facilities. A "bath" was a luxury because it was so difficult to get water, heat, containers, and soap together at the same time. Vermin overran the place. Disease was rampant. The medical service was hopeless, and the death rate was high. "It was unbelievable misery," Block says.

Eventually Block got his name on a list to be shifted to another camp near Marseilles, where opportunities for escape were greater. "This was a curious place," he says. "It was an old abandoned pottery factory. We slept in the old bake ovens, crawling in through the narrow openings on hands and knees."

Block was elected chief of a group to improve camp conditions, and he took up his work with great enthusiasm, after the boring days at Camp de Gurs, where there had been no work whatsoever. He succeeded in getting his section of the camp cleaned up and in getting the morale raised a few notches.

### Plans Escape

Block obtained permission to make a trip to Marseilles, where he met the Quaker refugee committee, the HIAS, and a French lawyer who helped him organize a plan for getting prisoners into Marseilles for interviews with a member of the HIAS committee.



HUGH BLOCK

By Pvt. John Zwald

## Bard Books

"Under Cover" by John R. Carlson Dutton Co. \$3.50 541 pp.

The current non-fiction best seller by John Roy Carlson, *Under Cover*, is just the sort of book that was needed to jolt Americans into an awareness of the scope and insidiousness of the 5th Column activities in this country.

It is the story of an American immigrant who was far more aware of the danger that was and is confronting it than were many native born Americans; of one who ready and willing, regardless of the peril to himself, to fight to preserve our heritage.

Masquerading as an Italian-American fascist he started joining various subversive organizations in order to get the low-down on them.

The immense variety of such groups, tailored, one might say, to appeal to the special prejudices of different political, social, religious, racial, or national groups in the American population, is a testimony to the astonishing thoroughness with which the traitor organizations work.

No one is spared in this intensely interesting and daring exposé. It names people, from the highest to the lowest walks of life, and quotes actual conversations. It is your duty to yourself to read this book. —F. J. K.

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# Officer Material

Will the Mad Scramble Through Artillery School End at OCS?—Cpl. Leek Gives Answer

(Continued from Page 1)

school . . . not after he arrived there.

So then, came the Prep School . . . and it's a lulu. In my opinion a guy should be commissioned when he finishes Prep School, and sent to O.C.S. for a refresher.

Perhaps here and now I'd better qualify my statements. All the above is, of course, my personal opinion—derived from various Army Journals and some personal experience. What follows is a resume of personal experience only. It all starts easily enough—about 200 men of all ranks and sizes get together and the C.G. of the Brigade makes a 20-minute speech on what they want and what they'll get. Next day about 190 come back and take a written quiz on simple math and logic. A week later about 120 are invited in for individual interviews. During the interview you begin to get the idea. A bit of math and current events—including such slightly irrelevant questions as "From which side do you mount a horse?" and "How many men could milk a cow—with one man to each faucet?"

### Get Physicals

A few days later, 80 prospects receive physical exams. Finally comes the news from Corps Hq. that you are an Accepted Applicant.

A couple more weeks roll by—and one day they tell you that the next day you go to Prep School. This necessitates a private reveille at 5:30 so you can eat and get very dapper and meet the rest of the boys at 6:15 for the ride over to the main garrison. You can spend 30 minutes memorizing the unbound volumes on the Cadet Pool bulletin board—and then at 7:00 your day begins.

You receive a weekly "poop sheet" which lists assignments for each day—references to read—and 37 other items. They give you all

kinds of manuals which you carry in a field bag if possible. Generally it isn't possible, so you memorize a few and leave them behind each day. After a few days, you're on terms of easy familiarity with your instructors. I mean that you don't bow when they pass by—you just salute very snappily, so that your arm vibrates like a tuning fork, and if your elbow flies out of joint that proves you're interested. Everyone knows you and calls you by your last name—probably because you wear a name plate over your left breast pocket. Incidentally, if your name plate, belt buckle, and shoes won't blind at 30 paces, you don't have the right attitude.

The first week is spent learning the fire control instruments (nothing to do with hoses and water-buckets), materiel (guns, trucks, etc.), duties of the executive (he does everything short of planning a continental invasion) and practicing command and leadership. C & L is very nice—you drill over an area 100 yds. by 100 yds. right between a motor pool testing yard and a hissing, roaring Butane plant. You stand a minimum of 80 feet from your section at all times and command them verbally, though a working knowledge of Indian sign language and mental telepathy is invaluable.

On an average day you'll have 150 pages of references to read and two to four work sheets to prepare. Each day is much like the other—only longer. At the end of the first week you find maybe 50 men are left in your group and you've lost five to six pounds.

### Math and Motors

The second week you get math and motors. You tear down vehicles, reassemble them, study cut-aways of every part, and try to apply the math you learn in finding the torque developed at the little end of a big rod that comes from the motor and makes a little gear go round. Like the first week, you can expect an average of five quizzes daily, an equal amount of homework, and the loss of three to four more pounds.

In the third week comes the fun. You may know a 155 from muzzle to trail, but you can forget it—you will now learn all about the 105. Mostly though you will learn how to fire the piece. You will learn survey—so you can find the gun. You'll study obliquity factors, and site and sheaf, computation of basic data, and ballistics and dispersions. And at that point you begin to get into the hard stuff.

You'll find out about the firing tables and fire commands. They'll let you in on axial precision, and axial bracket fire—general lateral fire—and small T precision and bracket fire. You'll hear of K transfers and metro data and while you're resting you'll see six movies on fire direction and fire control and have exams on every one of them.

You'll be bewildered by rapid plotting methods and calculation of centers of impact. You'll be afraid of large T precision fire, and find it the easiest. You'll go nuts mastering the purpose or technique of fire direction, and you'll learn that forward observation is a real kick and fun to learn. On Saturday you'll get a two hour exam on all types of fire and when they tell you to bring four well-sharpened pencils, they aren't kidding.

You aren't much surprised to find that seven guys are left when you begin the fourth and final week. You don't much care even—you just want to get it over and done and grab a three-day pass to Los Angeles. You know the tough one—gunnery—is behind you; the rest is pretty much anti-climax.

The big day is Thursday—literally a field day. Only one section now, and with seven men its so small you have to borrow a dozen from non-com school. Back in the mountains at 6:00 and the first problem is under way. A rapid occupation of battery position is carried out smoothly, and after a critique you travel fast and tear into a hasty occupation. It goes okay and during lunch you make plans for the big one—a simulated night occupation.

### The Pay-off Comes

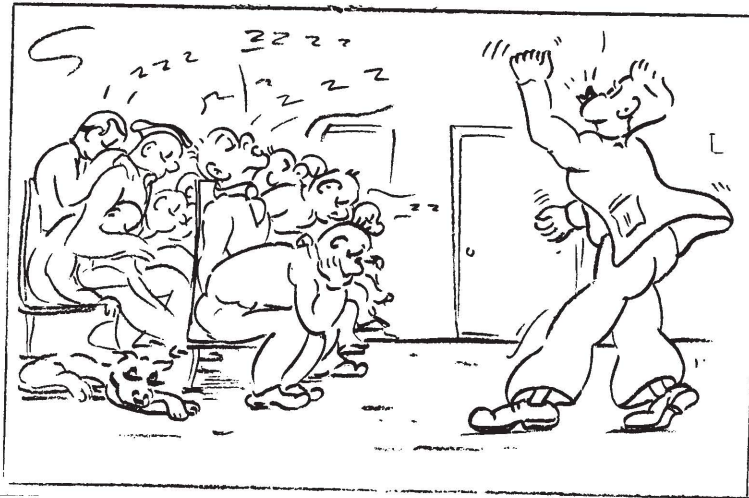
This means survey and all the trimmings—select a battery position, establish complete communications, set up an observation post, determine base and aiming points, ranges and elevations, and hope that half of what you say makes sense. The pay-off comes when you find your assignment is that of reconnaissance officer. All you have to do is survey the battery in, using a stake four miles from nowhere which has a tag bearing its coordinates, and set up the O. P.

It's no end surprising to all concerned when the last leg comes in at 3203 mils off. Then you remember to subtract a back azimuth and there you are—2 mils off, and you know that you won't be shot after all. Everything you've learned comes out in this problem, along with things you didn't know you'd learned. You go to the O.P. and down comes a fire mission.

Everyone goes nuts when two minutes later a training battery begins pitching H.E. over your hill onto YOUR target—only you don't

## BATTLE OF BARD

By Pvt. John Zwald



"Doesn't Anybody Have a Question?"

## Bard Teachers Attend Conference

Dr. Eric Fisher and Dr. Carlton C. Qualey attended the 58th annual meeting of the American Historical Association, held at Barnard College, Columbia University, on December 29 and 30.

The conference discussed the general topic of post-war reconstruction, both at home and abroad, and took account of past experiences in periods following American wars.

Particular attention was devoted to incidences of American occupation of foreign territories, such as the Rhineland after the last war and Mexico after the war of 1848.

Contending that "careful study of other post-war periods may help us in dealing with problems which will follow the victory of the United Nations," the conferees attempted to solve future problems in the light of historical experience.

know it isn't your gang. The Exec relays your commands to the training battery and pretty soon they get a target. Only later do you find out that they have their own figures and won't fire unless your commands coincide with theirs. You bury your dead, if any, and the day is over.

During the last couple of days you discover that the instructors are nearly human after all—and when you meet one in L.A. a week later you're convinced of it.

So it goes with Prep School—all you have to do is sit around and wait for Corps Hq. to call you and send you to O.C.S. Three months later you find yourself in THE PROGRAM, and soon you'll be a finished product. The lads back in California are still waiting to go to school and here you are—boy, you're a cinch for bars now. Pass me th pipe, chum—I'm losing my lift.

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## Players Parade

Track Stars Chief Recipients of James E. Sullivan Memorial Trophy

By Pfc. Petco Petcoff

One of the most coveted awards in American sports is the James E. Sullivan Memorial Trophy, granted annually to the athlete who "by his performance, example and influence as an amateur and a man has done most during the year to advance the cause of sportsmanship."

Sullivan was the outstanding track performer in his day. After retiring from the cinder paths, he began a career which was devoted to one end and one end only—the advancement of good will and sportsmanship among all participants of sports.

He began his career in 1877 and by 1880 he became the all-around champion of the Pastime Athletic Club. Next he founded the Athletic News, one of the first papers devoted wholly to track and field. This was followed by work on the New York Sporting Times. Subsequently, he was promoted to editor and eventually he became the owner. He was also one of the leaders in the formation of the American Amateur Union in 1889.

The trophy was created and presented for the first time in 1930, in commemoration of this champion of sportsmanship. The organization Sullivan helped to found, the A. A. U., now conducts the polling of sports leaders throughout the country in its search for the No. 1 sportsman of the year.

As might have been expected, track performers have been the most consistent winners, running away with the honor ten out of fourteen years. The predominance of track stars can be attributed partly to the fact that track is one of the few major sports that has not been professionalized.

Bobby Jones, Jr., the renowned golf star, took the first award, receiving the trophy after displaying his wares abroad and at home. The following four years saw the award go to track performers, including the famed Kansas miler, Glenn Cunningham. Other men to be so honored included: Barney Berlinger, James W. Bausch, the American decathlon champion in the 1932 Olympic games, and the Princeton middle distance star, William Bonthron. This string of track winners was broken in 1935 by another star of the fairways, W. Lawson Little, Jr., of San Francisco.

A track man, Glenn Morris, the pride of Denver and decathlon winner at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, took the honor. He was followed by tennis player Don Budge, of triple crown fame. This was, of course, before Budge, also a westerner, abdicated the throne as king of the amateur tennis world. Don Lash, the running Hoosier cop, came through in 1938. J. W. Burk, the Philadelphia sculling champ, was the man in 1939. Since that year the honors have again gone to performers on the cinder paths, including New York's Les MacMitchell and little Greg Rice from Notre Dame and Missoula, Montana.

The last presentation was made two weeks ago on December 30, 1943 when Gil Dodds, the little bespectacled Boston divinity student who was the National Athletic Union 1,500-meter track champion for the second straight year, who ran the fastest indoor mile—4:08.5—and who was clocked in a 4:06.1 mile outdoors, was selected as the fourteenth winner of the James E. Sullivan Memorial Trophy.

## ASTP Hoopsters Draw Western Pool of Talent

By Pvt. Guy Saunders

Some of those boys whom you may have seen flashing around the basketball court have a background that you might like to know about. Their accurate passing and exact shooting suggests that the game isn't just something they happened to pick up in a spare moment. They know what they are doing and they have plenty of previous experience to go on.

One of these fellows is Arizona-born Bob Bracken. Bob played as a freshman on the Arizona State team. He also starred as center during four years of play on the Wickenburg High School team and was one of the mainstays in the team's successful bid for the State championship.

Here are a couple of boys from the sunflower state of Kansas you should watch, John R. Samuelson and Dale E. Spencer. Samuelson lead his high school team to the regional championship with a 31 point average for three games. He played varsity forward for Fort Hays College, sixth man by the way.

Spencer played four years of ball at his high school and when a frosh at Kansas State he played varsity ball. He was one of the top ten of his team and on the traveling squad in the "Big Six." He started three games. Keep your eyes on these two!

Another boy from "out western way" is Bernie Norling. Norling, one of the more quiet type, talks quite impressively once he gets out on the court. His dead-eye shooting won him a berth on his high school's starting line-up, but his studies must have kept him running at Gonzaga College, for his activities at that Washington state school were limited to intramural ball only.

John Damken, another one of the boys, looks back upon four years of high school ball at Rock Falls, Illinois. Looking at the record we find John where we would expect him to be—at the top of the ladder.

These are just a few of the fellows who lend class to Bard's intramural schedule. With them all we should get quite a school team. What do you think?

## Sports Notes

SQUASH

Starting in the near future, a squash tournament will be held as part of the intramural sports program of Bard College. The tourney, which will be conducted in round-robin, will be open to both Army and civilian students.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Mon., Jan. 17—Bard vs. Green Bay.

Thurs., Jan. 20—Green Bay vs. Westerners.

Fri., Jan. 21—Balkan Guerrillas vs. G.I. Joes.

Mon., Jan. 24—Alfred Flashes vs. Balkan Guerrillas.

Wed., Jan. 26—G.I. Joes vs. Golden Gophers.

Thurs., Jan. 27—Westerners vs. Bard.

AFTER THE ENGINEERS

By Pvt. B. Pierer

(Reprinted from the Ft. Belvoir weekly through the good offices of our Virginia correspondent, Pvt. Russell E. Cosgrove)

Oh the Infantry is first to land, After the Engineers. Marines get things so well in hand, After the Engineers. And when they sound the mess call You can bet a round of beers— The cavalry is first to eat, After the Engineers!

The Tanks are always out in front, After the Engineers. The Paratroops will bear the brunt, After the Engineers. And when the war is over But for the shouting and the cheers— The boys will all go running home, BEFORE the Engineers!

## Sports Figures

HANK COUPE

If you happen to visit the ice rink any day about 4:30 P.M., you'll see a bespectacled lad of 22 driving a puck around the ice, looking very much as though he knows what he is doing. That is Henry J. Coupe, (French, Section E) who officially started his hockey career at the age of twelve.

After a colorful period of high school play which ended with South Academy High capturing the Rhode Island State Championship in 1939, Coupe went to the University of Illinois where he played center for two years. It was in these same two years, 1941-1942, that Illinois took the National Championship. In 1942 Coupe tied the National Record previously held by Norman Sterle, now Second Lieutenant, Infantry, for the most goals scored in one game—five goals and two assists.

In spite of a crowded college career, Coupe managed to find spare time to play with the Kansas City Americans and the Marquette Millionaires, two professional teams. Now, when he isn't working, he is dreaming of a post-war sports boom and a career in Hockey.

—E.A.C.

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FOOTWEAR—CLOTHING

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## Bard Basketball Team Defeats Kitchen Five

In a spectacular, knock 'em down, pick 'em up, and then knock 'em down again basketball contest, Bard recently defeated the kitchen help by the score of 29-22.

Led by player-manager Gin Kinoshita, the Bard starting team also consisted of Joe Schoolmaster, Stan Schwartz, Ray McMurray and Jack Haulenbeek. Taro Kawa, Dave Margolin, Martin Weiss and Stan Falk saw action as substitutes.

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**How Engineers See Language Students**

By Pvt. John Zwald

## Gold Dusting With Billy and Jerre

**Engineer Statistics:** Latest records show that each engineering student at Bard has 2,763 women in nearby towns . . . Engineering faculty misses average of 24 days per term due to colds. This is a challenge to gold-bricking G.I.'s . . . According to Section 3, 25 minus 21 equals 24!! According to "Dr. Moe" 25 minus 21 equals ZERO . . . Honors go to most honorable, Superior Private Horace Mabib who tops everyone with the outstanding record of 38 demerits, no merits . . .

**Albany, N. Y., FLASH!** Bard Boys Make The News . . . while everyone else perspired at a formal U.S.O. dance, Bernie Allan sat huddled up in a corner with his overcoat on trying to keep warm. . . **Ralph Heyl, commonly known as "Two Beer Heyl" was serious about an Albany beauty until he found out she was only fifteen years old.**

**Hudson, N. Y. FLASH!** According to the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce, Columbia Street was so named because it is the first place everyone lands when they get there . . . DeWitt's was the scene of a fight between "Little Earthquake" and an Air Corps man. The subject—ASTP—the result—our first victory in battle . . . **Eddie MacDonald claims he isn't engaged to that girl in Hudson—Hudson townspeople claim otherwise . . .** official Bard representative for Hudson tap rooms, Bill McCullough.

**Poughkeepsie, N. Y. FLASH!**—Pvt. Ken Delwiche, the "King of Corn" knows by now that all doors marked "Private" are not meant for the relief of privates . . . What about that Cinderella blonde of Hawk's that has to be home every night by twelve . . . what does she do, go out at 12:15? . . . Old flames, Fracalossi and Adele, meet at the Exempt Firemen's . . . The dance tomorrow night at Vassar will find Bill Crossman still trying to make headway with "Jenny with the light brown hair . . ."

**Right-around-home: FLASH!**—Who's two-timing who in McVickar No. 6? . . . All EM are cordially invited to view the latest picture of Habib's girl in Potter No. 3 . . . Johnny Zwald is an easy man to find. He's in bed every night from 5:30 on . . . "Bulldog," alias "Andy Gump," has recently been running around with his tail between his legs. **Fashion Notes:** Straight from Paree is the bedroom ensemble of J. Edison Nunez, Jr. He is on display every night from 9:30 on . . . Dr. Horace B. Mann is issuing a book of pants patterns so you too can have "Mann drape shape," complete with "ouuler."

**Pome of the Week:**  
When you get "A's,"  
That really shows  
That you've been working  
(with your nose)

**Thumbnail Portraits:** This week we study under a plano-concave lens, a man who has been to many parts of the world and every bar in every part, our own "Lapland Looie." He has given literally millions and millions of lectures at \$25.00 per; to unconscious audiences in Bard Hall. We salute the man who turns his back to us on Friday mornings and says, "Let's at least avoid the appearance of evil . . ."

**ENGINEER-ed** by Privts. Bill Crossman, Jerre Burton, and Dave Zelitch.

## ASTP Exchanges

This column would appreciate information about other ASTP units. If you get any news from friends at either engineering or language schools—let us have it.

College Degrees have already been awarded to ASTP trainees at New York University who were unable to complete their college work before entering the Service. Three months of Area and Language work has been given the value of nine elective credits for a B.A. at NYU.

Stanford University claims to be the largest AST unit in the country, with approximately 2,900 trainees. The largest group is composed of advanced language students, mainly learning oriental languages. The famed Hoover Library on War, Reconstruction and Peace has been opened to the group. The library contains confidential records of nearly all social movements in the world.

ASTP trainees at the University of Pittsburgh stand reveille in the halls of their barracks. But the Permanent "Indian-givers" Party make them walk guard on weekends.

The AST unit at Rose Polytechnic Institute in Terre Haute holds its reveille formation in a hotel. Dress informal!

Credit for obtaining the highest average on GI exams goes to the AST Engineers at the Citadel. But the next month 100 flunked out.

—L. M. W.

Yank reports that former Pfc. Robert L. Shallenberg, of Co. F, 3301st ASTU, had some unique experiences. On November 8, Shallenberg was just a Pfc. On November 9 he was given an honorable discharge—and on November 10 he got an ensign's commission in the Navy. This give you any ideas?

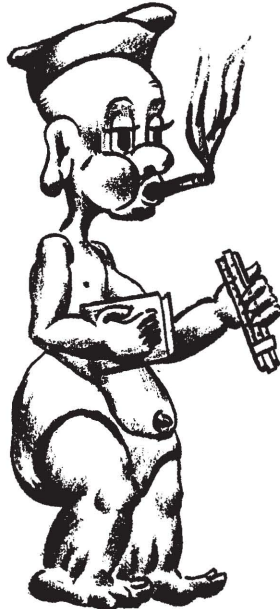
## 4 to Get Chance At Med. School

Four Bard ASTP engineering students have been recommended for transfer to medical school, it was announced today by Major Harvey N. Brown, commandant of the post.

Selected on the basis of GI tests and personal interviews, the chosen men, Privates Argyl Bacon, Kenneth Delwiche, Patrick McNulty and Carl Russell, will attend some pre-med school before entering either dental or medical college.

The competitive examination, given several weeks ago, selected ten students. Out of this number four were recommended after interviews conducted at Manhattan College in New York City. At this time the candidates indicated their respective choices for the two branches of medicine open to Army students.

All four students selected had some higher education in addition to secondary school.



**How Language Students See Engineers**

By Pvt. John Zwald

## Bard's Past

(Continued from Page 1)

winter a rather morbid community."

In 1864 Ludlow-Willink was built as faculty apartments and an administration office. Orient Hall was built as a dormitory in 1868, and in 1873 the dining Commons was built with the grant of a former cook, Miss Elizabeth Preston of Barrytown. There were then many changes made, converting Bard from a strictly religious seminary to a college of liberal arts giving academic degrees, while the number of students were increasing and new buildings were added to the campus. Potter and McVickar Halls and the two Hoffman dormitories were built in 1891, greatly enlarging facilities for the students, who had previously been forced to take residence with the families in the neighborhood.

One of the greatest additions to the campus was made in 1892 when the Reverend Charles E. Hoffman bequeathed funds for the beautiful, fireproof library containing reading room facilities and a collection of 60,000 volumes. It is interesting to know that the grant was to be effective only if the style of the building was to be Greek. As a memorial to college members who died in the World War I, the Memorial Gymnasium was built in 1920. Hegeman Hall and Albee dormitory were built in 1925, and Hegeman Observatory in 1927. South Hall was added in 1936.

In 1928, the Reverend Bernard I. Bell, College Warden at that time, induced Nicholas Murray Butler to incorporate St. Stephen's into Columbia University; at that time the name was changed to Bard College. It was Dr. D. G. Tewksbury, formerly professor of education Columbia Teachers College in 1934 who brought about a program based upon intimate knowledge of students and aimed to make the most of each individual's needs and abilities—the progressive, experimental educational method of which Bard is justly proud.

## Language Teams Query Prisoners at Fronts

"Prisoner of War Interrogation Teams" consisting of one officer, two language-trained enlisted men, and a jeep are being attached to regimental combat teams to get information from captured enemy soldiers right up near the front lines, it is revealed in the new January issue of the *Infantry Journal*. ASTP Language and Area students wondering about their future assignment are expected to show a more-than-usual degree of interest in this new battlefield development.

The primary function of the PWI Teams is to question prisoners directly at the point of hostilities. Actual battle experience has shown that at least 60% of all useful information about the enemy is obtained from prisoners, Major Max H. Specht, author of the *Journal* article, says. It is generally agreed that the prisoner is most amenable to questioning immediately after capture. Moreover, in the fast-moving situations of modern warfare information must be used immediately if it is to be of value.

### Work Closely With S-2

That's where the Interrogation Teams, consisting of soldiers trained both in languages and intelligence work, come in. Equipped with a jeep for mobility, they are attached to Regiments by higher headquarters to work closely with S-2—most often at the Regimental Command post, but occasionally even up front with a Battalion C.P. if the situation justifies it.

In addition to questioning prisoners the personnel of the teams will be used in such typical combat intelligence work as reconnaissance, or whatever else the exigencies of the moment require.

Though the sine qua non of a member of the PWI Team is knowledge of the enemy's language, it is stressed that above all they must be soldiers, trained and ready to assume all the duties of soldiers.

### Must Know Tactics

"They must have had line training equal to that of the average soldier before he is committed to a

theater of operations," Major Specht says. "This is necessary so that they can fully appreciate not only the position, but the problems of the Infantry element with which they must work. Moreover they must have a soldierly appearance and a well-integrated personality. They must be practical and positive and have tactical knowledge and know enemy organization together with a quick appreciation of the enemy order of battle."

Furthermore, it is pointed out that the Interrogation Team member must be of high intelligence for successful application of psychological techniques of questioning and evaluating the responses of front-line prisoners.

### NURSERY DEPT.

"WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18 (AP)—Thousands of selected American soldiers are learning strange foreign tongues the same way their first learned English at mother's knee.

" . . . army educators have applied the principle that children learn to say "mummy," "cake," or "more" long before they know the difference between a noun and a verb."

—From the *New York Herald-Tribune*, December 19, 1943.

Simple. Next time your informant asks you to conjugate a verb just turn on your dimples and say mummy. Or ask for cake. Tell him it's GI.

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Jan. 16-17

Guadalcanal Diary

Jan. 20-22

Northern Pursuit

Jan. 23-24

Dancing Masters

and

King of the Cowboys

Jan. 27-29

The Gang's All Here

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RHINEBECK

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Guadalcanal Diary

Jan. 16-18

Thousands Cheer

Jan. 19-22

His Butler's Sister

Jan. 23-25

Northern Pursuit

Jan. 28-29

Phantom of the Opera